**8年级（上）英语第21课时（第7周）**

**《濒危动物知多少》学程拓展**

**Let's save the wild animals of our world**

Hello to you all! My name is Laura Ashley. I am a zoologist and I work to preserve and save endangered species, that is animals which are disappearing from our planet, because of the changes in climate, hunting, or poaching, and the destruction of their habitat.

Do you know that one of the last male white rhino has just died and here are some estimates for some very emblematic animals .There are only about 700 mountain gorillas left 1,600 giant pandas, between 2,000 and 3,000 Bengal tigers, between 7,000 and 10,000 cheetahs, about 130 condors, less than 50 Amur leopards, between 4,000 and 6,600 snow leopards, about 7,000 orang-utans.

80% of the population of the white shark has disappeared in less than 15 years, 80% of the population of the Irrawaddy dolphin has disappeared in the last 50 years. The Chinese dolphin disappeared in 2006, 50% of the Asian elephants were exterminated in one century.

Many species are nearly extinct in the wild and can only be seen in zoos !! With the ice disappearing at the poles, polar bears are threatened. Elephants are killed for the ivory of their tusks, rhinos are killed just for their tusks as well, which are reduced to powder and supposed to have medical power. Big cats are killed for their fur, or hunted in safaris for fun!

The destruction of big forests leads to the death of many species of animals and plants. Even the bees are dying massively and don’t forget that if they do disappear, men will follow soon after.

So it is our responsibility and yours as well, you young generations to do our best to preserve the biodiversity of our planet!!

**1.Complete the following table.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Names of animals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **Think of what we can do to protect animals and make three suggestions.**